

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

---:---

P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

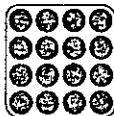
Tuesday, September 30, 1975

10:00 o'clock a. m.

HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL,
Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries
Building
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter



Helen R. Dietrich, inc.
Stenotypists

333 ST. CHARLES AVENUE, SUITE 1221
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70130 • (504) 524-4787

P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The regular monthly Board meeting of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was held on Tuesday, September 30, 1975, beginning at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, Room 102, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Harvey Clay Luttrell, Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Chairman

DOYLE G. BERRY, Vice Chairman

MARC DUPUY, JR., Member

JIMMIE THOMPSON, Member

DONALD F. WILLE, Member

J. BURTON ANGELLE, Director

---:---

A G E N D A

1. Approval of minutes of May 16 and July 1, 1975. (6)

DR. LYLE S. ST. AMANT

2. Request for permit to dredge approximately 5,000 cubic yards of fill material from Bayou Boeuf at 0.78 miles north of the. (8)



S. P. Railroad at Amelia, Louisiana, by
Villier J. Aucoin of Morgan City;
Louisiana.

3. Request for renewal of permit to remove fill (10)
material from the Mississippi River
between Mile 102 AHP to Mile 103.5 AHP
by T. L. James & Company, Inc., of
Kenner, Louisiana.
4. Request for renewal of permit to remove sand, (11)
gravel or fill material from the Missis-
sippi River between Miles 116 AHP and
117 AHP, opposite levee stations 5896
to 6008 in the Pontchartrain Levee Dis-
trict, St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, by
T. L. James & Company, Inc., of Kenner,
Louisiana.
5. Request of Larry Doiron Corp. of Morgan City (12)
to remove fill material from Six Mile
Lake at Buoy 7-A in St. Mary Parish,
Louisiana.
6. Request of Kitchen & Ostarly, Inc. for (13)
renewal of permit to remove fill mater-
ial from the Mississippi River at
Mile 105.3 AHP.



7. Request of Donald G. Lambert Contractor, Inc., (15)
to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, at a point about 171.5 Miles AHP near Marchandville, La., in Ascension Parish, amount approximately 1.3 million cubic yards.
8. Request for permit to dredge for fill material (16)
from Chevron Oil Company in the amount of approximately 56,000 cubic yards from Calcasieu Pass, Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER

9. Request from Sun Oil Company to dredge access (18)
canals on State Lease 6588, Well No. 1 and State Lease 6590, Well No. 1, on Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge.
10. Request from Tennessee Gas Pipeline for (21)
right-of-way on Pointe-au-Chien.
11. Request from Exchange Oil and Gas Corporation (24)
for use of road on Rockefeller Refuge.

MR. JOE HERRING

12. Discussion of deer hunting seasons. (30)
13. Discussion of name of recently acquired (36)



property in Ouachita Parish.

14. Road right-of-way through Richland Plantation property - newly acquired land. (38)
15. Request for right-of-way easement for Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area drainage canal in Concordia Parish. (41)
16. Discussion of rules and regulations for Russell Sage WMA concerning all mineral leases. (43)

OTHER BUSINESS

17. Appoint committee to review shrimpers loan applications. (62)
18. Peter Duffy - Request Mineral Board to advertise for mineral lease for Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries' interest of minerals on Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area. (51)

The following items not on the printed agenda were also considered:

- October meeting dates. (6)
- Recognition of guests. (7)
- Progress report and discussion re alligator season. (28)



- Discussion of noon closing, waterfowl hunting areas. (31)
- Request for dedication of revenues from mineral leasing of Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area lands to Conservation Fund. (55)
- Appointment of committee to visit City of Jennings for inspection of gun range. (62)
- Discussion of Constitutional amendment re Commission. (59)
- Wildlife motif in decor, Monteleone Hotel. (60)
- Remarks of Mr. Francis Braud, Louisiana Wildlife Federation. (63)
- Discussion of alligator, nutria, muskrat populations. (63)
- Adjournment. (72)
- :---



CHAIRMAN LUTTRELL: Will the meeting come to order, please. We are ready to begin.

The first order of business this morning is approval of the minutes of May 16 and of July 1, 1975. Do I have a motion?

MR. BERRY: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a second?

MR. DUPUY: I will second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, like sign.

(No response)

So ordered.

Another part of business, it is not on the agenda, but I think it is just as well to set the dates for the next meeting at this time. Usually it is the fourth Monday and Tuesday of the month, and that would be the 27th and 28th of October, correct? If there is any good reason for not doing it then, say so now.

MR. THOMPSON: That is when it is supposed to come, isn't it?



THE CHAIRMAN: That is when it is supposed to come.

MR. THOMPSON: We don't need to set a meeting every month.

THE CHAIRMAN: Occasionally we have something comes up and it has to be changed, and I have been setting one every month, just as a matter of habit. You can't change the habits of some of these old people. Do you know of any good reason for not having it then? O. K.

Now, Doc, are you ready? Dr. St. Amant, please.

DR. LYLE ST. AMANT: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: But first of all, Doc, if I could, I would like to recognize our guests. We have two gentlemen from Sun Oil Company with us and we have our press here with us. We are always glad to see them.

MR. BERRY: Mr. Chairman, would it be improper to ask Mr. Ensminger to come up and let's go to No. 9, so these gentlemen can get back to work.

THE CHAIRMAN: No, it would not. I am



glad you mentioned it. I usually do that. We will give these people a chance. Mr. Ensminger, is he here? I am glad you mentioned that because we usually do that, so you people can go to work, back home.

Oh, yes, my good friend, Mr. Braud. Of course, he is ordered to be here every time. There is nothing unusual if he is here. If he's not here, then we get him down in the country. He has to come and protect himself.

Doc, I think it will be better if we go right ahead.

DR. ST. AMANT: I have a call for him.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have seven items but they are generally routine items, dealing principally with dredging of fill material, in the Mississippi River and other water bodies.

The first one is a request by Mr. Villier J. Aucoin of Morgan City to dredge 5,000 cubic yards of material from Bayou Boeuf and he needs this to do some work on his property. I would recommend we grant this permit at five cents a



yard until the work is completed but not more than one year.

MR. BERRY: So move, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Thompson. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, like sign.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permis-
sion to VILLIER J. AUCOIN to remove
fill material in the amount of
approximately 5,000 cubic yards from
Bayou Boeuf at 0.78 miles north of
the S. P. Railroad at Amelia, St. Mary



Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from September 30, 1975, to September 30, 1976, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The next item is a request for renewal of an existing permit by T. L. James & Company at Mile 102 AHP in the Mississippi River. This permit has been in existence. It is operating satisfactorily. The material is being used for highway construction principally. I recommend the permit be granted for another period of one year at five cents.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion?

MR. THOMPSON: So move.

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Berry. Is there any discussion? Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the



resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permis-
sion to T. L. JAMES & COMPANY, INC.
to remove fill material from the
Mississippi River between Mile 102 AHP
to Mile 103.5 AHP for a period of one
year from September 30, 1975 to
September 30, 1976, at a royalty rate
of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: Our next item is another
renewal permit for T. L. James at Mile 116 AHP.
This permit has also been operative and it is
satisfactory. We recommend that it be renewed for
a period of one year at five cents per cubic yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recom-
mendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. WILLE: So move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille and
seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Those in favor, say aye.



IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permis-
sion to T. L. JAMES & COMPANY, INC.
to remove fill material from the
Mississippi River between Miles
116 AHP and 117 AHP, opposite levee
stations 5896 to 6008, in the Pont-
chartrain Levee District, St. Charles
Parish, Louisiana, for a period of
one year from September 30, 1975 to
September 30, 1976, at a royalty
rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: Next is a request from
Larry Doiron Corporation of Morgan City to remove
fill material from Six Mile Lake at Buoy 7-A in



St. Mary Parish, Louisiana. We have investigated this proposed operation. We find no problem with it and we recommend that the permit be granted for a period of one year at five cents.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. DUPUY: I so move.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to the Larry Doiron Corporation of Morgan City, Louisiana, to remove fill material from Six Mile Lake at



Buoy 7-A in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, for a period of one year from September 30, 1975, to September 30, 1976, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The next one is a request by Kitchen & Ostarly, Inc., for renewal of a permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 105.3 AHP. This permit has been operative and it is operating satisfactorily. We recommend its renewal for one year at five cents per cubic yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. BERRY: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Wille. Any opposition?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)



BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to KITCHEN & OSTARLY, INC. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River at Mile 105.3 AHP, for a period of one year from September 30, 1975 to September 30, 1976, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The next is a request for a new permit to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, at a point about Mile 171 AHP by Donald G. Lambert Contractor. They want to remove approximately 1.3 million cubic yards for highway construction. I would recommend that this permit be granted for one year at five cents per yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation, gentlemen. What is your pleasure?

MR. BERRY: I so move.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry,



seconded by Mr. Thompson. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permis-
sion to DONALD G. LAMBERT CONTRACTOR,
INC. to remove fill material from the
Mississippi River, left descending bank,
at a point about 171.5 Miles AHP near
Marchandville, Ascension Parish,
Louisiana in the amount of approximately
1.3 million cubic yards, for a period of
one year from September 30, 1975, to
September 30, 1976, at a royalty rate
of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: The final one is a
request by Chevron Oil Company who request a permit
to remove 56,000 cubic yards from Calcasieu Pass,
in Cameron Parish, Louisiana, to do some fill work



around a docking facility. We would recommend this permit be granted for the period of time of the construction or for not more than one year at five cents per yard royalty.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. WILLE: I so move.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to CHEVRON OIL COMPANY to remove fill material from the Calcasieu Pass, Cameron Parish, Louisiana, in the amount of approximately 56,000 cubic yards, for a period of one year from



September 30, 1975 to September 30, 1976, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

DR. ST. AMANT: That is all.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Doc. Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, we have received a request from Sun Oil Company to construct two access canals on Marsh Island to service their State Leases 6588 and 6590. These two locations will give them a location on each one of their two new leases out there on the Island. We have reviewed their access routes. The one on 6588 is near an existing permit that you issued a couple of months ago. If they drill this well, they would then in turn extend the canal into the other location. The location on 6590 will be an extension off of a dry hole that has existed there on Marsh Island for several years.

I would recommend that these two locations be approved for Sun Oil to install these drilling sites on Marsh Island.



THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation.

MR. THOMPSON: I so move.

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Berry. Is there any discussion? No discussion. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed, like sign.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Sun Oil Company has
made application to the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission for an
access canal to service State Lease
6588 Well No. 1 on our Marsh Island
Wildlife Refuge, and

WHEREAS, this work can be
approved provided certain terms and



conditions are incorporated in the permit to protect the interest of the Island,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Sun Oil Company to excavate an access canal on State Lease 6588, Well No. 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

---:---

WHEREAS, Sun Oil Company has made application to the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for an access canal to service State Lease 6590, Well No. 1 on our Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge, and

WHEREAS, this work can be approved provided certain terms and conditions are incorporated in the



permit to protect the interest of the Island,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Sun Oil Company to excavate an access canal on State Lease 6590, Well No. 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., Number 10, Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ENSMINGER: The next request is from Tennessee Gas Pipeline. This is for a short pipeline location on our Pointe au Chein Wildlife Management Area. It is about 480 feet long from an existing Humble well over to one of Tennessee Gas' natural gas pipelines in the area. It will be just a four-inch line. I would recommend that we grant a right-of-way for them to install this line. It will be a 25-foot right-of-way and it will be a



single line for that particular well.

THE CHAIRMAN: And the usual charge for a 25-foot right-of-way?

MR. ENSMINGER: Yes, \$10 a rod.

MR. BERRY: So move it.

MR. DUPUY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has received a request from Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company for a right-of-way to install a four-inch (4") natural gas pipeline to connect an Exxon producing well to an existing pipeline, and



WHEREAS, this right-of-way will be twenty-five feet (25') in width and 19.21 rods in length, and

WHEREAS, this work can be performed without damaging the area from a wildlife standpoint,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant unto Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company a right-of-way twenty-five feet (25') wide by 19.21 rods in length across a portion of the Pointe au Chien Wildlife Management Area, Section 54, Township 19 South, Range 21 East in Lafourche Parish,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the necessary safeguards be incorporated into the permit to protect the interest of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and that the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

MR. ENSMINGER: The last item I have for



your consideration is a request from the Exchange Oil and Gas Corporation for the use of a road system on our Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge. Exchange Oil and Gas has leased a large tract of land on Rockefeller that surrounds an existing lease that they have on privately owned property just to the east and north of the eastern end of our refuge.

They have a location staked that is very close to the refuge boundary line and they have requested to utilize our road system down to the site adjacent to this location. Of course, we would incorporate all of the necessary safeguards in the permit to require that they maintain the road and give us use of it and, of course, not interfere with our use of our own road system.

In view of this, I would recommend that Exchange Oil and Gas be given the right-of-way to utilize this road to drill this location.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation, gentlemen. What is your pleasure?

MR. DUPUY: Allan, I would like to ask a question before it becomes moot. Can we restrict or sort of limit the use of it so as to protect the



wildlife on the management area?

MR. ENSMINGER: Well, of course, this would be restricted only for Exchange Oil and Gas use to drill that well and it wouldn't give anyone else any authority to come on or off the refuge. Of course, we already have this restriction on the road system.

MR. DUPUY: This is normal in your permit?

MR. ENSMINGER: And additionally, Marc, between the edge of the refuge and the public highway, we have an existing permit from a private landowner for access into our property. In that permit it restricts it only to Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission personnel and representatives that the Commission so designates, so it will be up to the oil company to get permission from this same landowner before they can, of course, come on the refuge, and this is up to the oil company, of course.

THE CHAIRMAN: Now, if I understand this correctly, what you are saying is that we are simply extending permission to a company to use



the road.

MR. ENSMINGER: That is right.

THE CHAIRMAN: One person, one party only.

MR. ENSMINGER: That's right. And, of course, they have a lease on the refuge and this would be a part of evaluation of our leased acreage on the refuge, and undoubtedly if the well is made, we will certainly participate in the unit.

MR. BERRY: So move, Mr. Chairman.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry, you have heard the recommendation, and seconded by Mr. Wille. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, Exchange Oil and Gas Corporation holds an existing mineral



lease on Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge, and

WHEREAS, this company has staked an oil well location adjacent to our property, and

WHEREAS, they have applied for permission to utilize an existing road system on Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge as access to this site,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Exchange Oil and Gas Corporation privilege of utilizing the existing roadway on Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge under terms and conditions mutually agreed upon to protect the refuge from damage, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Ensminger.

MR. ENSMINGER: That is all I had for



you. I would like to mention to you, probably for your information and the press, that our alligator season is in full swing in Cameron, Calcasieu and Vermilion. In conversations with the technicians running the thing there, Ted Joanen and the boys at Rockefeller, it appears that the season is going along real well. We have had no problems whatsoever from the enforcement area. They are harvesting at the rate of about three to four hundred animals a day. Late yesterday afternoon Ted estimated that they had around 1,500 'gators killed.

So, the thing is going real well. It seems that they are running to a little bit smaller size class than in our previous two seasons, but we kind of anticipated this because of the cold weather. When the temperatures get low, the big alligators do go in hibernation. Perhaps with this warm weather that is here today, they may pick up a few more big 'gators. But everything seems to be going along real well with no appreciable problem whatsoever.

MR. BERRY: Allan, I would like to add this to it, a request that you do everything



possible to get us a season down in Terrebonne and St. Mary next year, because the alligators are about to eat us out down there; the nutria, rats, whatever else an alligator will eat, they have just about eaten it, and we have got to get a legal kill down there or have an illegal kill, it looks like.

MR. ENSMINGER: Well, we certainly appreciate that situation in the rest of the coastal portions of the state. Mr. Yancey and I are planning to go to Washington tomorrow and we will appear before a House subcommittee hearing on Thursday that will be an overview of the Endangered Species Act. Of course, at that time we will present Louisiana's views on the Endangered Species Act and I think everyone is well aware of the problems that Louisiana has experienced, certainly with regard to the American alligator. This is a problem that a lot of other states have experienced and, of course, we are going to do everything we can to try and open up the remainder of certainly our coastal parishes and get the alligator removed from the Endangered Species Act where we will have management authority on it.



MR. BERRY: Would you do me a favor and pass along to that Congressional committee that if they don't do something down in Terrebonne Parish, the coonass is going to be the endangered species, not the alligator!

MR. ENSMINGER: I think that is very well put.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Ensminger. Joe Herring.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The first item we have on the agenda is a request from three different Parish Police Juries to make changes in the recommended doe season. This would be Iberville Parish, the Police Jury is recommending against the five-day doe season and wish to have two days; the Winn Parish Police Jury is recommending that the either sex deer season be cancelled; and the Franklin Parish Police Jury is making recommendation to the Commission to make their doe seasons kind of coincide with some in Tensas and Madison Parishes.

After discussions with the district supervisors in these areas and going back to our



original recommendations that we made for the hunting seasons, I recommend to the Commission that we leave the seasons as set, that no changes be made.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, do we have any discussion on this recommendation? Mr. Wille.

MR. WILLE: Joe, as you know, in the past our policy has been to try to hold to the printing of the regulations, and I would like for you to write a letter back to the Juries concerned and tell them that if they would attend our July meeting, we would certainly be glad to take it under consideration but we cannot at this time because it is impossible for us to change the regulations. We just don't feel like we should.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Wille. Before we get off of that, Mr. Yancey did hand me another one that was discussed, pertaining to the Northwest Fish and Game Preserve, which was asking of the Commission to close the season on waterfowl there at noon each day, and since this came in too late for the Register, it would have to go in with these others then. Write them that it came in late.



MR. WILLE: My feelings are the same. It makes no difference who it is, if we have published it in the regulations, there is no way that it is ever going to hold water if somebody is out there legally hunting.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other comments?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Joe, the Northwest Fish and Game has requested that we stop hunting at twelve o'clock?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. Their rules and regulations as set up have to be approved by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission first, and so they did send in, just prior to this meeting, a resolution from their group, requesting that the waterfowl season be curtailed at twelve noon each day, and this would not have adequate time to have been listed in the State Register as being on the agenda, plus it would not have time to be in the Register prior to going into effect.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: The point I am making, Joe, is we will allow --

MR. HERRING: It would be all day shooting right now.



DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Right, and the Commission itself, the staff, has never recommended for noon closing on this area?

MR. HERRING: That I can recall recently, we have not recently. This is the first time recently that they have come to us for any regulation. About ten or twelve years ago they did come in for some changes there, but this is the first time I can recall recently, yes, sir.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: On our game management area that we do have the Greentree Reservoir, where we do allow waterfowl hunting, do we have a noon day closure on all of them?

MR. HERRING: It is divided throughout. The good waterfowl areas, where it is good waterfowl hunting, we normally recommend a twelve noon closure. This gives the birds time to come in, settle down, and it does produce better hunting by doing this. On areas that are not very good, where we have streams coming through or just small pot-holes, where it does not produce real good duck hunting, we just go ahead and leave those the same as the outside season, in most cases, but we have



some game management areas with noon closures and we have some then with all-day hunting, according to legal shooting hours.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And it depends on --

MR. HERRING: Normally whether it is a good waterfowl area.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: -- the success of the hunter, your decision to either open or close it at noon, is that correct?

MR. HERRING: Right.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: It doesn't have anything to do with the biology part of it?

MR. HERRING: Not the real biology, no. It is just the success of the hunter, more or less, right.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, I would like to make this comment. I know those people in the Northwest Game Commission right well and I would like for them to know and I am going to tell them, and if you write them a letter, I wish you would put in there that I personally favor the closing at noon, but I can't vote to do this simply because it is in the published regulations, and I just can't see



us trying to enforce the law that already says they can shoot all day and then put out a second law that says they can't, so you couldn't prosecute anybody, whether they did or didn't. I can't go along with changing the regulations this late in the year.

Now, I am much in favor and I hope that those people will come back next year with the same request because I will fight with them if they get it to us early.

MR. HERRING: We will put in the letter that we should get their request next year about May.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is right, and I will fight with them till I go down, because I like the idea, but I can't go along with the idea of changing regulations that have been published and handed to everybody in the State of Louisiana. I just can't go along with that.

MR. HERRING: This will be put in their letter, so we can get it in with all the other recommendations.

THE CHAIRMAN: We thank them, I do per-



sonally thank them for coming up with it.

I believe we still have open the requests from the Police Juries. What is your pleasure, gentlemen? You have heard the recommendation.

MR. WILLE: I so move.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Those in favor?

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has received requests from three Parish Police Juries for changes in the doe deer season, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has heard the requests from the Police Juries of



Iberville, Winn and Franklin Parishes, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has also heard the recommendations from the Chief of the Game Division and his staff, and

WHEREAS, the Game Division recommends that these requests be denied,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission take the recommendations of its technical staff and denies the Iberville, Winn and Franklin Parish Police Juries their requests.

THE CHAIRMAN: Number 13, please.

MR. HERRING: O. K. Mr. Chairman, the next item on the agenda, Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has recently acquired a 3,000-acre tract of land in Ouachita Parish for wildlife management area purposes. At this time we need to name this area. Members of the staff have reviewed the maps of this area and surrounding country, trying to get some logical name for this area, and I think the best one we could come up with is



Ouachita Wildlife Management Area.

You have the Ouachita River there, which at one time was considered one of the most beautiful rivers in the world in a National Geographic article, and also that is the Parish, but this area would be called just the Ouachita Wildlife Management Area, which I think would hit the area around there and give a lot of support to it.

I would recommend at this time that we do name this area the Ouachita Wildlife Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Any discussion?

MR. BERRY: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Wille. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the



resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission has
recently acquired a 3,000-acre tract
of land for Wildlife Management Area
purposes, and

WHEREAS, the Chief of the
Game Division has recommended this
area be named the Ouachita Wildlife
Management Area,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fish-
eries Commission adopt this resolution
and name this newly acquired area the
Ouachita Wildlife Management Area.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, since we
have now named the area, we will start referring
to it as the Ouachita Wildlife Management Area
and now we need to try to get access into the area.
Presently we do not have any except by water. The
landowners around Richland Plantation have agreed
to give us an access into the area for a length of



about a mile and three-quarters. (Indicating on map) This is it. You can kind of see it. On here we have to go through agricultural land right on the edge.

I would like to recommend at this time that you give the Director the approval and authority to work with Richland Plantation personnel in trying to work up a right-of-way into this area.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Do we have any discussion? Do I have a motion?

MR. WILLE: I move.

MR. DUPUY: I will second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille and seconded by Mr. Dupuy. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild



Life and Fisheries Commission has recently acquired a 3,000-acre tract of land in Ouachita Parish for Wildlife Management Area purposes, and

WHEREAS, this newly acquired area has been named the Ouachita Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, the only access to this area at present is by boat, and

WHEREAS, our District personnel have met with Richland Plantation personnel pertaining to a road right-of-way, and

WHEREAS, Richland Plantation personnel have agreed to give a right-of-way across their land for a width of not less than 40 feet and for a length of one and three-quarters of a mile, and

WHEREAS, Richland Plantation personnel reserve the right to use this road for their farming operations,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED



that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission accept this right-of-way offer for a public road and further work to put it under the parish or state highway system.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item pertains to drainage on our Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area. During the floods of '73, '74 and '75, our natural drainage has been blocked in here and we have permission from Mr. Dale Rogers to use a drainage canal that he has if we would enlarge it. I would like to recommend to the Commission at this time that we pursue this and give the Director the authority to work with him on getting servitude to our land or from our land.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Is there any discussion?

MR. DUPUY: I so move.

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Berry. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: So ordered.



(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the floods of 1973, 1974 and 1975 have blocked the natural drainage pattern within the Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, this presents a serious condition that has the potential of doing considerable damage to approximately 3,000 acres of timber, and

WHEREAS, to alleviate this problem, it is proposed to construct a drainage canal for the purpose of reviewing excess flood and rain water from certain portions of the wildlife management area, and

WHEREAS, the most feasible and economical means to accomplishing this is by using an existing canal adjacent to the Wildlife Management Area owned by a private individual, Mr. Dale Rogers, and



WHEREAS, it will be necessary to get a right-of-way easement or servitude from the adjacent land owner, Mr. Dale Rogers, to enlarge the existing canal, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dale Rogers has agreed to grant this servitude,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission approve for the Director to enter into an agreement with Mr. Dale Rogers for the enlargement of this canal for drainage of waters from Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission lands.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, this next item will partially come under Mr. Peter Duffy, on the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area, as far as leasing it for mineral rights. However, the Game Division has come up with about eight recommendations on here, pertaining to drilling, and some of the things for the management of this area in drilling.



They are very lengthy. It pertains to entering the area, some of the drilling operations, road construction in there that would be left open for public use and how they would be built, levees and fire guards on the area as far as fire hazard is concerned, pollution on the area, flares that would be left burning, permanent structures that any of the companies would build on the area, and leases to comply with all the rules and regulations of the Mineral Board and the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, and that drilling would be under the supervision of the State Mineral Board and approval from the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

I won't go into detail on these eight items, but I would ask the court recorder on this to enter these in full as far as the recommendations that were distributed to the Commission members, discussed at various times, also given to the press, and they are available to anyone else in this meeting who would like to have copies of them. Since they are lengthy, I would recommend that they just be entered into the meeting as



drawn up here. That would be our recommendation on that, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, let me ask one question. Did we delete in the final draft --

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. If you will recall, I said eight items, because we had nine yesterday. We did knock out Number 9 on there, Mr. Chairman. Number 9 was pretty well covered under the first part there, so we just knocked it out.

THE CHAIRMAN: I see. Good. Any other discussion, gentlemen?

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, I would recommend that we go ahead and adopt the regulations as suggested, prepared for the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area mineral development.

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Berry. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response.)



THE CHAIRMAN: So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution, and the rules and regulations adopted thereby, are here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has heard the recommendations of the Game Division pertaining to Rules and Regulations for Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area, located in Ouachita, Morehouse and Richland Parishes, and

WHEREAS, these recommendations are being made for management and protection of the Wildlife Management Area,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission adopt these Rules and Regulations for Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area in Ouachita, Morehouse and Richland Parishes:

Specific regulations to be



incorporated in all mineral leases:

1. Entry into the area for drilling and production operations shall, as far as practicable, be by road, location approved in advance by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission. A minimum amount of lines and all permanent superstructure shall be used and tank batteries shall be so located and maintained as to avoid pollution of streams and other portions of the leased premises and none of the above construction work shall be done without first submitting plans for the construction of roads, pipelines, tank batteries, salt water disposal systems and other permanent installations to the State Mineral Board and the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, for approval, rejection or modification, and all construction plans



will be presented to the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and other approving parties for study for a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to approval date. Special precautions in developing access to drilling sites in areas already intensively improved for wildlife may be required as mutually agreed upon by the mineral lessee and the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission. No such construction will be approved that is likely to permit water pollution.

2. All roads constructed into drilling sites shall be graveled, right-of-ways and site locations shall be cleared of all timber -- no windrowing. Any damage to existing roads, etc. will be repaired. All roads constructed to drilling sites or producing wells shall be used as access for public hunters.
3. Levees and fire guards shall be so



constructed around tank batteries, separators and boilers as to decrease fire hazards and to prevent water pollution, and wherever practical, such levees and fire guards shall be bonded to the base after removal of the vegetation and by means of a core trench.

4. To prevent pollution all salt water shall be reinjected into sub-surface formations. In situations where it is not deemed practical to do this, the State Mineral Board and the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission shall be advised and its approval obtained of such other methods of disposal as shall prevent pollution.
5. Flares shall be burned only when necessary and all flares that are burned shall be flared in a burning pit. In situations where it is deemed necessary to burn flares,



the State Mineral Board and the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission shall be advised and their approval obtained.

6. All permanent structures placed on the leased premises shall be so constructed as to create minimum fire hazards and so as to result in avoidance of pollution of water bottoms and other portions of the leased premises and minimum disturbance or harm to the game and wildlife inhabiting said area.
7. Lessees shall comply with all current rules and regulations of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for the protection of game and wildlife, and particularly, no hunting, fishing or any other activities harmful or destructive to game or wildlife shall be permitted on the leased premises or any other part of said game preserve.



Upon completion of drilling operations no loud noise-making machinery will be used in carrying out production operations.

8. All drilling and producing operations shall be conducted under the strict supervision of the State Mineral Board and the Department of Conservation and shall be subject to the prevailing laws, rules and regulations of the Department of Conservation.

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, at this time you might want to consider Number 18, which pertains to the same subject matter.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Joe. Would you handle this then, Mr. Dupuy?

MR. DUPUY: Yes, sir. Gentlemen, at a special meeting of the Mineral Board Wildlife Committee and the Wild Life Commission's Mineral Committee about two or three weeks ago in Baton Rouge, it was recommended that, with regard to



the Ouachita Farms problem, the whambrake mineral development area, that we had retained, as you recall, Mr. Thomas Lee as attorney for this Commission to determine the legal problems involved and to make some recommendations to this Commission. This joint committee recommended that the Mineral Board proceed with the leasing for oil, gas and mineral leases of the mineral interest owned by this Commission under the Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area.

The Mineral Board proposes to proceed with advertisement for leasing at the November mineral lease sale. I think it would be appropriate that this Commission request formally and officially that the Mineral Board lease for us our mineral interest.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, there is one other piece of business that Mr. Bonnacarrerre mentioned and since there has been a request for leasing for a long period of time, he suggested that they be allowed to lease this according to seniority of request, and I believe we agreed to that. Should we put that in the motion?



MR. DUPUY: I am not sure I understand.
What do you mean by that?

THE CHAIRMAN: He stated that since those requests had been there a long time and many of them overlapped, he knew of no way of being completely fair to everybody except to take the seniority of the oldest request and put it up as a unit and then each one down.

MR. DUPUY: Yes, that is the Mineral Board's procedure for advertisement for the lease tracts.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation. Do we have any discussion? If there is no discussion, do I have a motion?

MR. DUPUY: I move that we ask the Mineral Board to formally lease for mineral development the minerals owned by the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission on Russell Sage Wildlife Management Area.

MR. WILLE: I will second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy and seconded by Mr. Wille. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.



THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission is the
owner of certain described lands sit-
uated in Ouachita, Richland and
Morehouse Parishes, Louisiana, more
particularly described on Exhibit A
annexed hereto and known as the Russell
Sage Game Management Area; and

WHEREAS, the Commission
desires to lease its right, title
and interest in and to all minerals
in, on and under the described tract
of land; and

WHEREAS, the Commission
desires to avail itself of the
provisions of La. R.S. 30:153 and
direct the State Mineral Board to.



lease its land described herein in the manner provided in sub-part A, part 2, Chapter 2 of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, through its Director, as provided by La. R.S. 30:153, requests the State Mineral Board to advertise for lease the Commission's right, title and interest in and to the minerals in, on and under the land described in Exhibit A of this resolution known as the Russell Sage Game Management Area situated in Ouachita, Richland and Morehouse Parishes, Louisiana, in accordance with the provisions of Sub-Part A, Part 2, Chapter 2 of Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 30 of 1950.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director deliver to the State Mineral Board a certified copy of this



Resolution, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to act for and on behalf and in the name of this Commission to sign any and all necessary deeds and documents necessary to accomplish the leasing of said land and to include in said documents any additional stipulations, conditions and provisions as he, in his sole discretion, deems to be in the best interest of the Commission.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, that brings us down to the end except for one thing, Part 17, appointing --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: For the benefit of the press, I think Mr. Yancey brought out yesterday the possibility of maybe some of these mineral royalties will revert back to the Conservation Fund. Dick, would you bring that out so we can get the press to pick that up and hopefully get some support in the legislature or put a provision in while we are asking the Mineral Board to advertise, maybe put a proviso in there, asking that the revenues, a part of it, would be dedicated to the



Conservation Fund.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Director, couldn't we just add that to the motion?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Oh, I am sure we could.

THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead, Dick.

MR. YANCEY: Well, at the time the Commission purchased that 15-000 acre tract of land in Ouachita Parish, it used money from Marsh Island, the Marsh Island fund, and, secondly, that the Commission acquired ownership of half the minerals to the property at the time it acquired title to the property. What concerns us now is the possibility that the Commission would not get this revenue that is going to come from this lease, that it may go to some other purpose, and I would recommend that we adopt a resolution, you know, requesting that the State Mineral Board and the Treasurer's office take this revenue and put it into one of the Commission's accounts in the Treasurer's office, to be reappropriated back to the Commission for wildlife management programs in the State by the legislature at a future date, probably beginning next year.

I think if you don't do that, I think we



stand a chance of not getting this revenue.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think we all go along with that.

MR. YANCEY: Money is the lifeblood of our whole operation here. If we don't have this --

MR. DUPUY: I would like to make that motion but as a separate motion rather than in the same motion we just passed.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right, I think that would be good, Mr. Dupuy.

MR. DUPUY: Yes, I would like to move that we do that.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Dupuy, seconded by Mr. Thompson, that Mr. Yancey's recommendation be included in the agenda of the day as a separate motion. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made



a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has this day adopted a resolution to lease through the State Mineral Board all of its right, title and interest in and to the minerals in, on and under the lands owned by the Commission situated in Ouachita, Richland and Morehouse Parishes, Louisiana, known as the Russell Sage Game Management Area; and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires that all funds derived from the leasing of said minerals be deposited to the account of the Conservation Fund in the State Treasury; and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, through its Director, requests that in accordance with the provisions of La. R.S. 30:153 the State Mineral Board deposit any and all sums derived from the Commission's mineral interest



in, on and under the Russell Sage Game Management Area to the Conservation Fund in the Louisiana Treasury;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the said Commission authorize and request the Louisiana State Treasurer to deposit all sums and funds derived from the leasing of its mineral interest in, on and under the Russell Sage Game Management Area be deposited in the State Treasury to the account of the Conservation Fund and to take whatever actions and sign whatever documents are necessary to accomplish this and to incorporate therein any stipulations, conditions, as he, in his sole discretion, deems to be in the best interest of the Commission.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: I would like to reiterate my statement before that it is most imperative that we call for a Constitutional amendment so



that we won't be faced with such a motion every time we have a leasing or do anything that generates money toward the Wild Life and Fisheries, that we call for the legislature to present to the public a Constitutional amendment, and again I say, placing all self-generated monies of Wild Life and Fisheries at their disposal or retained by Wild Life and Fisheries, as well as the Commission form of government we have, I don't know whether we presently have it or not, with its full authority as it was in 1921. I think that was the date.

Maybe someday the sportsmen are going to hear about this and are going to jump in arms and we are going to get that amendment. Mr. Braud, I am saying that for your attention.

Something else that came to my attention this morning, Mr. Luttrell and I were coming out of the Monteleone Hotel -- this may be commercial but I don't really care, because it was interesting to Wild Life and Fisheries. One of the clerks, as we were checking out, asked us if we would like to see something real pretty pertaining to wildlife.



We said yes, and she took us into -- I don't know the name of it; they call it the Steak Room or something like that, in the Monteleone Hotel. There are about one, two, three, four rooms, and they are done beautifully in a wildlife motif. They have a lot of the trophies of Billy Monteleone in this room, some of them that are beautiful and I am sure that he has kept only the better trophies, and they are in the rooms. The rooms have been done, even the sofas, the curtains, they have a hand hewn pirogue. It is really worth you all going over there to take a look at, and particularly since this has just been Wildlife Week, it impressed me a great deal.

I just thought I would bring that to your attention. Go by and take a look at it. It is beautiful.

One little thing I have just got to say, Clay. Pictures like we have here, he has pictures all over the walls, but under each picture of each duck or whatever it is, he has his duck stamp underneath it, framed right in it. It is novel and it is real nice. You all go by and look at it.



THE CHAIRMAN: It is something that is so different and it is so outstanding that anyone who is truly interested in wildlife should go and take a look.

MR. THOMPSON: And do it right now because it is brand new.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is brand new, and it is so seldom that we have people who, in that position, would spend that amount of money, to highlight one special group.

O. K., is there any other discussion? If not, I am ready to proceed with 17, which is the appointing of some committees. I have those committees listed.

To review the shrimpers loans, Mr. Dupuy, Mr. Lapeyre and Mr. Wille, with the first named being chairman.

Now I have to appoint a committee to visit with the City of Jennings and look over a gun range that they are building, I believe, or maybe already have built. I appoint to this committee Mr. Dupuy, Mr. Thompson and myself, with the first named being chairman again.



Is there anything else for the good of Wild Life and Fisheries, gentlemen?

Oh, Mr. Braud. Excuse me, Mr. Braud. Always holler when you want to say something to this meeting.

MR. FRANCIS BRAUD: If I may take a minute of your time, please, I am Francis Braud, president of Louisiana Wildlife Federation, and I want to take this opportunity to thank the Commission, especially Joe Herring, for the good publicity that he gave to the National Hunting and Fishing Day. I want to thank you for your efforts, Joe. You have done a real good job.

I would like to request, too, that Mr. Ensminger see if he can't make a survey on all the coastal parishes concerning alligator seasons, and particularly in my area, which takes in Lake Maurepas, Lake Pontchartrain. We think around Lake Maurepas and Lake Pontchartrain there is enough alligators there for even a season, maybe not every year but every other year or every third year or something like that.

Right now we think that the alligators



are destroying the nutria in the area to the extent that the catch for this coming year would diminish a good bit. Every year the alligators continue to be populated like that, so I would ask Mr. Ensminger to see if he can come up with a survey and make a recommendation and get with some of our trappers in our area, and I am sure he could get some good information from them.

MR. BERRY: Mr. Braud, as I appreciate it, and I believe Mr. Ensminger gave me these figures, it is estimated that an alligator will consume probably 300 nutria a year. Those 300 nutria are worth about \$5 apiece, which would make it about \$1,500 a year that an alligator is destroying. In a five-year period that is \$7,500 worth of fur-bearing animals he has destroyed, not to mention the ducks, and I will say Jesse Fontenot's duck dogs, and other wildlife that they destroy.

It is hard for me as a member of this Commission and also as a businessman to justify the overpopulation of the alligators we have got down in South Louisiana.

MR. BRAUD: That's right.



MR. BERRY: I just don't understand why it has been forced on us or why in the hell we tolerate it. We have got to do something to stop it. I say we ought to keep the alligator. We ought to keep him in abundance in some areas, but not to the point that it is breaking these trappers, ruining these folks that are trying to make a living trapping and hunting.

MR. BRAUD: I will agree with you.

MR. BERRY: What is a five-year alligator worth, Allan? One five years old, what is he worth on the commercial market?

MR. ENSMINGER: He is worth \$75, roughly.

MR. BERRY: Roughly \$75. And the nutria he has destroyed, not to say the muskrats, or the ducks, the deer and whatever else he can get ahold of.

MR. THOMPSON: Let me give you some figures. Man, you are talking one big alligator hunt a year. We caught 40 alligators on John Paul Crane's lease last Friday and Saturday. None of the alligators had anything in their stomachs, and this could be attributed to the cold weather, but



all the alligators we caught were in a poor physical shape. There was not a nutria that we saw and, according to the boys that were down there, there was no nutria in the marsh, no rats, and even to the extent that the garfish that are in those channels and in those ponds and all, there were none of those, or very few -- I won't say absolutely none -- very few. The alligators have had an eat-out, so to speak.

To give you an idea of how much it is worth, we caught one 'gator that was planted there, probably by Ted Joanen in 1963, he had a tag underneath planted in him, one of those types that they put right here (indicating) and he would be possibly thirteen years old. He was nine-foot something, he would stretch out to ten-foot after he was skinned, so you can see you have got about, what, a \$150 alligator for 13 years!

MR. BERRY: And all the nutria he ate in 13 years, and try to tell me that is a good investment! No way!

MR. BRAUD: I have witnessed a nine-foot alligator eat two nutria just like nothing. He ate



two nutria in about ten minutes, and these nutria weighed 12 to 15 pounds. If he can eat two of them like that every day, he can consume a lot of nutria and that is a lot of valuable hides for the trappers.

MR. BERRY: Well, all of Terrebonne Parish and St. Mary Parish a few years ago was just real plentiful with nutria but now you can hardly find one down there anywhere. The alligators have got them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, gentlemen, and Mr. Braud.

MR. BRAUD: Thank you. We are going to take your advice and get with you and come up with a resolution concerning this amendment you are talking about. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does anyone else have a comment?

MR. BERRY: I would like to ask Ted if he can give me a survey on the population of the nutria left in Louisiana now. Come up to the mike, Ted. I would like to know what it was five years ago and what you think it is today.



MR. TED O'NEIL: Well, I just finished my aerial survey last week and I couldn't, it is a little early to see the nutria population, to see what it was. I can't give you a real good answer on the nutria situation, but the rat situation, which did show up, was above in certain parts of Terrebonne Parish. We have got about eight or ten thousand acres there that are well populated with rats and they are moving to the west. In fact, they are halfway across Point au Fer now, with a good muskrat population.

But that is an area that is out close to the coast and it is not well populated with alligators. I should mention Marsh Island. I flew Marsh Island and we have been trying to get trappers on Marsh Island for the past three or four years. Allan, you have sent them out there and they quit and go back. There was, I think I counted, 20 rat beds on Marsh Island and no sign of nutria. In fact, not any sign of fur bearers on that whole island, and I attribute it pretty much to the alligator population.

Years ago, when man first got here, there



were no muskrats in the coast to speak of, there were very few muskrats and we always had a theory. Of course, we couldn't prove it, but we had a theory that the alligators at that time were very abundant and the predators kept down the muskrat population, and after the alligator hunting started, that is when the muskrat took over the Louisiana coast. It has almost proven that again.

You just can't have but so many pounds of animal on a piece of marsh. I don't care what it is. You fill it up with any kind of an animal, it is going to displace another, and in this case we think that the alligator is displacing a valuable resource that we are equipped to manage, that we have 10,000 trappers, that we have an organization for management of the fur industry, and it has been worth \$10 to \$13 million a year to us, and I think that the Fish and Wildlife Service, who are holding our feet to the fire on this alligator situation, should be really worked on. Are we putting all the pressure on them we can for opening?

But we will get a survey on the nutria population a little later. The grass is high and



I couldn't get a good survey on nutria, but the rats are going to be up a little but they are inhabiting areas away from the alligators, out near the coast.

MR. BERRY: You know, somebody once told me, Ted, that a camel was actually a house cat put together by a federal committee, and apparently they have done about the same thing with the alligator situation and the fur situation down here, too.

THE CHAIRMAN: Since we don't seem to be going to adjourn right now, I would like to make, this statement.

I think that someone in this Commission should put together a statement to be read into the Congressional Record, stating that the profit motive would insure the alligator not becoming extinct, but the Interior Department, with their rules and regulations, and the destruction of the profit motive, would be the people who would insure that the alligator did become extinct, because there is no way that a trapper is going to allow a group of big bull 'gators down there to put him out of business.



Since the Department of Interior comes up with all these rules and regulations, they are going to force the trapper to kill the alligator until he will become extinct. It should be put in the Congressional Record for future reference, so that when this does happen, unless they see good light and let the people within the State handle their own resources and make this resource an economical asset, the proper handling of the alligator and the economical value of the thing, he would never become extinct in this State, or in the nation, and we are not to blame for it. It is not our hunting and our seasons that is causing this. It is the rules and regulations put on by people who don't understand the problem. I think that this should be put into the record, be read into the Congressional Record, and put a little pressure on those people and let the rest of the world know who is really making the alligator extinct. I believe it would do a lot of good.

MR. BERRY: Ted, you mentioned a minute ago that you hadn't seen any alligators down against the coast. If you will come down with me,



I will take you down to lower Terrebonne Parish, Creole Bayou and Plumb Bayou, and you can count them on every curve in the daytime. If you come out in your boat at night with your lights on, it looks like a city lit up, they are all over the place, and quite frankly they scare the hell out of me when I am down there bass fishing.

MR. O'NEIL: I was speaking of near the coast. Bass fishing, you were probably in fresh water.

MR. BERRY: Well, I have got some ponds I fish in between Creole Bayou and the Gulf, I guess not 300 yards from the Gulf, and those ponds are absolutely full of alligators. Every hole you go in, there is an alligator in it.

MR. THOMPSON: With all that technical information, Mr. Chairman, I move we adjourn.

THE CHAIRMAN: I was just at the point of saying, those in favor, stand up. The meeting is adjourned.

. . . Whereupon, at 10:50 o'clock
a.m., the meeting was adjourned. . . .

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter.

